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To: microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

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I would like to voice my opinion of the proposed settlement of the antitrust cases against Microsoft. I am a Systems engineer by profession and from the wording of this proposal various software applications that are forcefully included in all of the operating systems from Microsoft are defined totally incorrectly. Some of these software applications are the media player, Internet explorer, notepad, wordpad as well as many others. All of these software applications are misrepresented as middleware. Middleware programs are in the simplest term's translators nothing more and nothing less. These middleware programs take input in one form and make it available for use by any program that can fully support the API (application programming interface) for a universal way to exchange information between different systems. Middleware allows for systems to be changed to another manufactures software easily. This is possible because the API's to most middleware programs are made fully available to anyone wishing to make their product to be compatible. Microsoft should be required to fully disclose to the general public on a public accessible website the entire API's the programs they want to be defined as middleware and be required to make any additions or changes available for 90 days before any microsoft program may be released can use this change. This requirement would help in making completion possible in these areas of the market.

In closing the current proposed settlement should be rejected and rewritten leaving no loopholes or areas were the guilty defendant (Microsoft) can dictate who and what the API's can be used for.

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